

## Lakes-To-Locks Partners

*Paddle in the shadow of the Space Needle, float among research ships in Lake Union, explore quiet coves along Lake Washington, discover nature in the city while gliding through Mercer Slough, watch eagles and blue herons along Lake Sammamish shorelines...*

Cary Tolman



### A Connection to Saltwater

The western end of the Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail connects with the Cascadia Marine Trail, an intercoastal waterway stretching 150 miles from Olympia to Canada. The Cascadia Marine Trail, one of only sixteen National Millennium Trails in the country, honors and preserves 5000 years of marine travel in Puget Sound.

Over forty campsites—on public and private lands—provide rest stops for paddlers travelling this trail.

**City of Seattle**  
Parks & Recreation  
100 Dexter Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109-5199  
206.684.4075  
[www.cityofseattle.net/parks](http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks)

**City of Kirkland**  
Parks & Community Services  
123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Kirkland, WA 98033-6189  
425.828.1218  
[www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us)

**Washington Fish & Wildlife**  
16018 Mill Creek Blvd.  
Mill Creek, WA 98012  
425.775.1311  
[www.wa.gov/wdfw](http://www.wa.gov/wdfw)

**City of Woodinville**  
Parks & Recreation  
17301 133<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
425.489.2700  
[www.ci.woodinville.wa.us](http://www.ci.woodinville.wa.us)

**City of Bothell**  
Parks & Recreation  
18305 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE  
Bothell, WA 98011-3499  
425.486.7430  
[www.ci.bothell.wa.us](http://www.ci.bothell.wa.us)

**City of Redmond**  
Parks & Recreation  
15965 NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street  
Redmond, WA 98073  
425.556.2300  
[www.ci.redmond.wa.us](http://www.ci.redmond.wa.us)

**City of Bellevue**  
Parks & Community Services  
P.O. Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012  
425.452.6881  
[www.ci.bellevue.wa.us](http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us)

**National Park Service  
Rivers & Trail Program**  
909 First Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
206.220.4116  
[www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)

**City of Mercer Island**  
Parks & Recreation  
8236 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mercer Island, WA 98040  
206.236.3545  
[www.ci.mercer-island.wa.us](http://www.ci.mercer-island.wa.us)

**City of Renton**  
Parks Administration  
1055 South Grady Way  
Renton, WA 98055  
425.430.6600  
[www.ci.renton.wa.us](http://www.ci.renton.wa.us)

**City of Issaquah**  
Parks & Recreation  
301 Rainier Blvd. South  
Issaquah, WA 98027-1307  
425.837.3318  
[www.ci.issaquah.wa.us](http://www.ci.issaquah.wa.us)

**King County**  
King County Park System  
2040 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Mercer Island, WA 98040  
206.296.4232  
[www.metrokc.gov/parks](http://www.metrokc.gov/parks)

**Washington State Parks**  
2840 Riverwalk Drive SE  
Auburn, WA 98002-8207  
253.931.3907  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

**Port of Seattle**  
P.O. Box 1209  
Seattle, WA 98111  
206.728.3194  
[www.portofseattle.org/portandyou](http://www.portofseattle.org/portandyou)

**Army Corps Of Engineers**  
Seattle District  
P.O. Box 3755  
Seattle, WA 98124-2255  
206.764.3443  
[www.nws.usace.army.mil](http://www.nws.usace.army.mil)

**Washington Water Trails  
Association**  
4649 Sunnyside Ave N, Rm 305  
Seattle, WA 98103-6900  
206.545.9161  
[www.wwta.org](http://www.wwta.org)



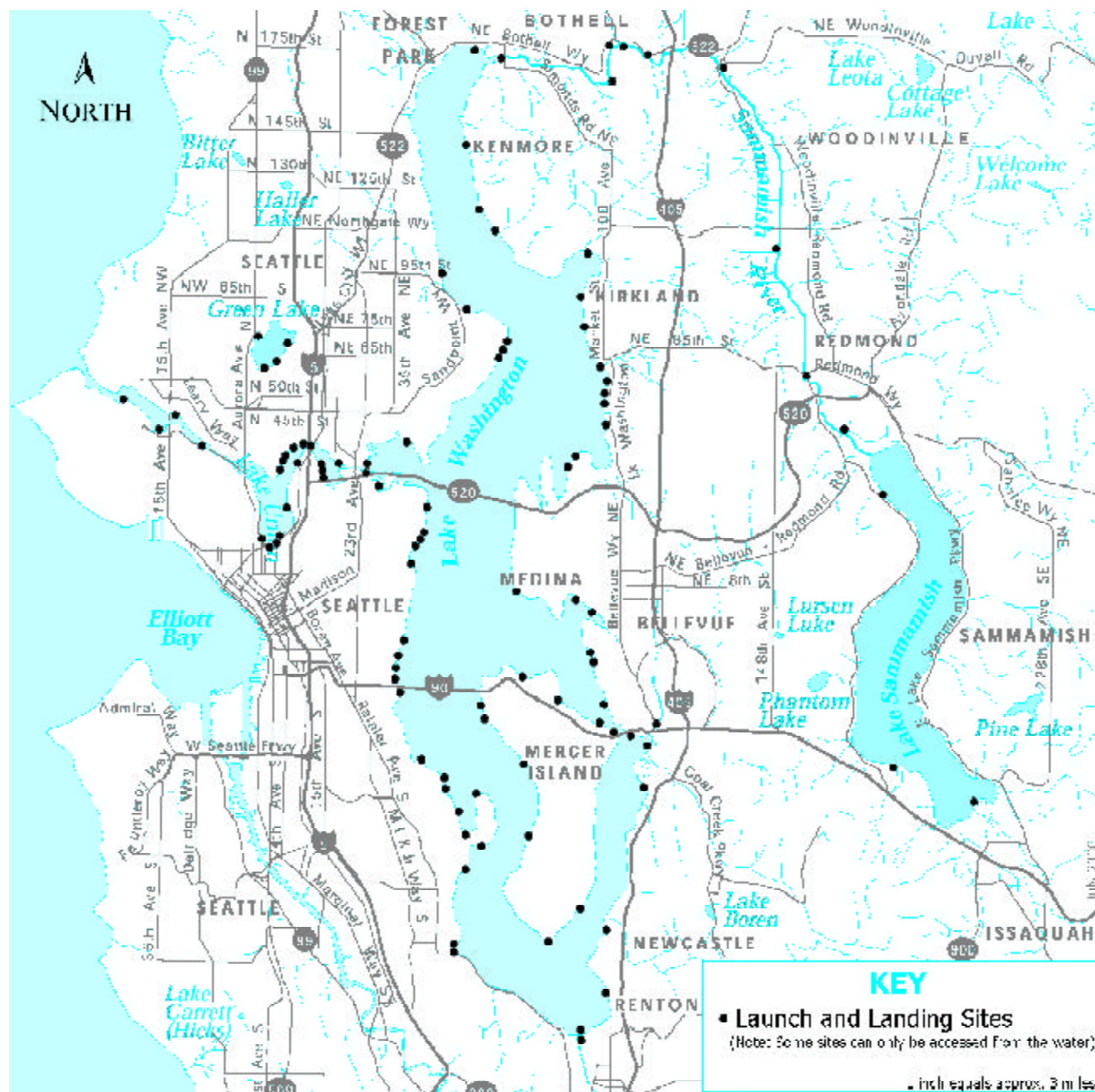
**A “blue trail” that  
connects inland lakes,  
rivers, waterways, and  
the ship canal with the  
shores of Elliott Bay and  
Puget Sound**

**Try seeing your community  
from the water!**



# The Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail

Bellevue Parks



This map is not intended for navigational purposes.

## How to Use the Water Trail

The map above shows the general location of places you can launch and land nonmotorized boats along the Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail. There are two Lakes-To-Locks Section Maps, produced by Washington Water Trails Association (WWTA), with detailed trail site information including site address, restrooms, and parking availability. There are many places to go and sights to see on the water.

What if you don't have a boat? Many cities have concessionaires working in local parks who provide boat rentals and guided paddle tours. Both the Internet and the Yellow Pages are good resources for finding recreation equipment stores, boat rental companies, and guide services. You may also want to pick up local city maps for your travels along the water trail.

If you are new to boating or do not own a boat, consider taking a safety class or lessons from a boat rental company. You might also enjoy visiting the Center for Wooden Boats, a hands-on museum seeking to preserve traditional maritime skills and artifacts. For information about water trails and travel in small boats, see the resource section below right, call Washington Water Trails Association at 206.545.9161 or visit the WWTA web page: [www.wwta.org](http://www.wwta.org).

## Community Connections

The White House Millennium Council declared the Lakes-To-Locks Trail a Community Millennium Trail in 2000. Millennium Trails across the country reflect national history and cultural traditions, illuminating the profound connection between people and place. The trail was also named the 2001 Blue Ribbon Trail of the Year by North American Water Trails, in recognition of Washington Water Trails Association's "excellence in the development and management of water trails."



## Stewardship along the Trail

All of us are stewards of the places in which we live. The members of Washington Water Trails Association believe that stewardship of the aquatic environment is an integral part of creating and managing blue trails.

How can you make a difference in your community's waterfront? Volunteer as a Washington Water Trails site steward, take part in an environmental watch program, organize a clean-up or litter patrol, join a city planning committee, participate in public restoration and construction projects, monitor water quality, lead educational paddle tours—or simply design your own stewardship niche. Whatever your skills and interests, Washington Water Trails Association and Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail partners can help you connect with a rewarding stewardship project. Give WWTA a call!



Washington Water Trails Association  
4649 Sunnyside Ave. North, Room 305  
Seattle, Washington 98103-6900  
206.545.9161  
[wwta@wwta.org](mailto:wwta@wwta.org)  
[www.wwta.org](http://www.wwta.org)

Washington Water Trails Association is a non-profit collaboration of people who love to travel and enjoy the world by small boats. WWTA works to build partnerships with both public and private organizations to create and manage water trails, instill a strong stewardship ethic for the aquatic environment, and encourage the use of local "blueways" for learning more about Washington's special places.



## Blue Trail Etiquette

- Be a good steward of the waterways and shorelines. Obey all parking and boating rules and signs.
- Always respect private property and homes along the waterfront.
- Launch, land, and take breaks only at Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail sites.
- Always give right-of-way to swimmers, sunbathers, beachcombers, divers, and pedestrians.
- Tread lightly on wetlands and take care near environmentally sensitive areas. View wildlife from a distance.
- Obey all warning lights and signals on the waterways.
- Avoid using motorized boat launches. The ramps are heavily used. Users of motorboats have fewer options for launching and landing.

## Boating Safety

Below is a partial list of regulations for small watercraft. For additional safety information, consult the *Washington State Boater's Guide* (free from Washington State Parks Boating Programs Office).

- All boats must carry a US Coast Guard approved Type I, II, or III life jacket in the proper size and good condition for every person on board.
- Children 12 years and younger must wear US Coast Guard-approved life jackets on boats shorter than 19 feet.
- All boats must carry a US Coast Guard approved signaling device such as a whistle or air horn at all times.
- All boats must be lit in the dark, dusk, or fog. Flashlights are acceptable for this requirement on a rowboat, kayak, or canoe.

## More Resources

- *Boater's Guide*, Washington State Parks Boating Programs, contact 360.902.8551 or [www.parks.wa.gov/moorage/guide/](http://www.parks.wa.gov/moorage/guide/)
- *Seattle's Lakes, Bays & Waterways—Including the Eastside: Afoot & Afloat Series*, by Marge & Ted Mueller, The Mountaineers Books, 1998.
- *Boatless in Seattle: Getting on the Water in Western Washington Without Owning a Boat*, by Sue Muller Hacking, Sasquatch Books, 1999.





## The Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail

Blue trails give us different ways to experience our surroundings. Besides being avenues for recreation, they are also links to local history and heritage, paths for improved health, and even routes to work.

With a chain of 100 launching and landing sites and over 130 miles of shoreline to explore, the Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail provides plenty of opportunities for Seattle and King County area residents to experience their community from the water.

This regional freshwater trail begins at Lake Sammamish, travels north along the Sammamish River, around Lake Washington, through the Montlake Cut to Lake Union, and then west to the Chittenden Locks and saltwater connection with Puget Sound and the Cascadia Marine Trail.

The Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail is designed for users of hand-carried, nonmotorized boats—kayaks, rowboats, sailboats, and canoes—to access local waterways, stop along waterfront parks, and enjoy unique neighborhoods and landscapes.

## Building the Trail

Washington Water Trails Association (WWTa) worked with the National Park Service Rivers & Trails Program for over two years to build this unique, close-to-home water trail. See the back of this brochure for a list of all the local Lakes-To-Locks partners who help make this distinctive trail a reality.

In 2000, the Water Trail was inaugurated with a series of events, including interpretive paddle trips, shoreline tours, treasure hunts, and more.

Two Lakes-To-Locks Section Maps, for the East and West sections of the trail, have detailed information about launching and landing sites, including parking, type of launch (shore, dock, or ramp), and available restroom facilities. Purchase these maps from WWTa, local Lakes-To-Locks partners, and boating stores in King County.



Most of the current launching and landing sites along the Lakes-To-Locks Trail are in parks or on publicly owned lands. It is our hope that corporate, private, and public landowners will consider adding even more access sites and facilities for nonmotorized boats.

Interest and participation in this metropolitan blueway is growing every day. We hope you will join with us to make the Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail a place everyone can enjoy.

## Goals for the Water Trail

- To physically, intellectually, and spiritually connect people with the place they live
- To provide access to local waterways for recreation and education
- To enhance the strong stewardship ethic developing in the Puget Sound Area
- To support improvements to sites and facilities that benefit small, non-motorized boats
- To highlight places of interest along and within each waterfront community
- To encourage residents, communities, and resource agencies to think holistically and work together to support a regional water trail system

